



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: B. Calvin Leverett	ATTY DKT NO. 124216.0001.001
SERIAL NO. 10/678,578	GROUP ART UNIT: 3677
FILED: October 03, 2003	EXAMINER: Miller, William L.
TITLE: MODULAR CASKET SYSTEM	
TO: Mail Stop Response/NO FEE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450	

**SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE TO
OFFICE ACTION MAILED AUGUST 05, 2005**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated August 05, 2005, Applicant asserts the following additional remarks:

Response

In an Office Action mailed January 23, 2006, the Examiner indicated that the Applicant's November 7, 2005 Response was not fully responsive to the August 5, 2005 Office Action because the Response did not address the rejection of Claims 20 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). While Applicant believes the amendments and response did encompass the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), Applicant provides this supplemental response. All assertions and amendments set forth in the November 7, 2005 Response are incorporated by reference and re-asserted herein.

Under the 35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejection, the Examiner relied on Gulick for teaching each of the elements of the claims except that the specific outer veneer is leather or metal foil. For this, the Examiner concluded that such materials are obvious design choices. Applicant traverses this rejection on the grounds that Gulick does not teach or suggest each and every element of the amended claims (but for the outer veneer material). As asserted in the November 7, 2005 Response,